

## Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 /056 W

-----180230Z 041803 /20

R 171348Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7486

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PASS USDA/FAS/FCA/ERS/SCHOONOVER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, UR, US

SUBJECT: USSR GRAIN MARKETING

1. EXPORT HLEB OFFICIAL CONFIRMED LATE LAST WEEK THAT USSR HAS NOT AS YET MADE ANY RECENT PURCHASES OF GRAIN. HE STATED FURTHER THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HAS NO PROCUREMENT INSTRUCTION AT THE PRESENT TIME. SAME OFFICIAL ALSO INDICATED GENERALLY IN ANOTHER MEETING THAT "IN GOOD YEARS" GOSU WILL LIMITE TOTAL GRAIN IMPORTS TO THE 6-8 MILLION TONS SPECIFIED UNDER THE US-USSR GRAIN AGREEMENT. IN SUCH CASE, NO IMPORTS FROM OTHER SOURCES WOULD BE CONSIDERED.

2. AT MEETINGS WITH UNION PACIFIC RR TEAM RECENTLY, EXPORTKHLEB AND MIN. FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIALS MADE FOLLOWING INTERESTING COMMENTS ON GRAIN IMPORTS THROUGH SOVIET EAST COAST PORTS: (A) IF IMPORTS FROM CANADA AND AUSTRALIA NOT REQUIRED, SOVIETS WOULD EXPECT TO IMPORT UP TO 75,000 TONS OF U.S. WHEAT PER MONTH THROUGH SOVIET EAST COAST PORTS; (B) PRESENT AND PROJECTED CORN NEEDS ARE ABOUT

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25,000 TONS PER MONTH, BUT COULD INCREASE TO 50,000 IN BAD YEARS; (C) MAXIMUM IMPORTS THROUGH THESE PORTS IN BAD CROP YEAR HAVE REACHED 5-6 MILLION TONS. WE WERE UNABLE TO GET FIGURE ON ANNUAL EASTERN USSR GRAIN NEEDS OR PRODUCTION DEFICIT, BUT OFFICIALS READILY ADMITTED ECONOMIC LOGIC OF SUPPLYING THIS AREA VIA WATER; (D) SOVIETS

SEEMED GENERALLY INTERESTED IN NEW GRAIN RATE  
STRUCTURE OUTLINED BY UNION PACIFIC OFFICIALS.  
THEY INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD BE TALKING WITH  
GRAIN FIRMS ABOUT INCREASED US WEST COAST  
PROCUREMENT.  
MATLOCK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MARKETS, GRAINS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** EAGR, EPAP, UR, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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